

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, PL

SUBJECT:AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER

REF: STATE 246524

1. INDIANA'S GEORGE WILSON MET WITH CU/EE OFFICERS OCTOBER 21 TO DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR MEETING WARSAW'S REQUIREMENT FOR RECIPROCITY AND THEREBY FACILITATE FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT OF AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER AT WARSAW. SINCE POLES HAVE NOT YET MADE KNOWN THE SPECIFICS OF THEIR RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS, AND HAVE NOT ACCEPTED INDIANA'S OFFER OF A FELLOWSHIP THIS YEAR FOR POLISH SCHOLARS AT INDIANA, WE EXPLORED POSSIBLE OPTIONS WHICH MIGHT MEET BOTH WARSAW'S NEEDS AND US UNIVERSITY REALITIES.

2. BECAUSE A POLISH STUDIES CENTER WOULD APPEAR TO BE BEYOND THE MEANS AND INTERESTS OF A SINGLE US UNIVERSITY, THE CONSORTIUM APPROACH IS BEING CONSIDERED. WILSON IS PREPARED TO TABLE AT NEXT MEETING OF THE EIGHT MEMBER MIDWEST UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS A PROPOSAL FOR THE CONSORTIUM TO JOINTLY SPONSOR A "FLOATING" POLISH STUDIES CENTER AMONG ITS MEMBER UNIVERSITIES.

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UNDER THIS PROPOSAL TWO POLISH LECTURERS WOULD BE INVITED

TO LECTURE EACH YEAR AT MEMBER INSTITUTIONS. APPOINTMENTS
WOULD BE FOR TWO YEAR PERIOD (ALTHOUGH ONE YEAR ALSO

POSSIBLE) TO PROVIDE CONTINUITY. THE POLISH LECTURERS
MIGHT REMAIN AT A UNIVERSITY FOR TWO SEMESTERS OR LONGER,
OR MIGHT MOVE TO A SECOND UNIVERSITY AFTER FIRST OR
SECOND SEMESTER, DEPENDING ON CONSORTIUM NEEDS. PROGRAM
WOULD BE CENTRALLY DIRECTED FROM INDIANA OR OTHER CON-
SORTIUM MEMBER AND WOULD EMPHASIZE THREE AREAS OF STUDY:
HISTORY, LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE, AND ECONOMICS (IN PAR-
TICULAR EAST-WEST TRADE RELATIONS). POLES WOULD PAY
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR THEIR LECTURERS. DOLLAR STIPENDS
IN US WOULD BE FUNDED JOINTLY BY CU/EE AND PARTICIPATING
US UNIVERSITIES.

3. THIS PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE FOLLOWING ADVANTAGES FOR POLES.
THE CONSORTIUM APPROACH WOULD ENABLE THE POLISH LECTURERS
TO REACH A LARGER NUMBER OF US STUDENTS THAN AT A
SINGLE UNIVERSITY. THE MEMBER UNIVERSITIES ARE LOCATED
IN STATES WITH A HIGH CONCENTRATION OF AMERICANS OF
POLISH DESCENT (MICHIGAN, ILLINOIS, INDIANA, AND OHIO).
THESE STATES ALSO HAVE HIGH CONCENTRATION OF US IN-
DUSTRIES WITH FOREIGN TRADE INTERESTS. IN ADDI-
TION TO THE HISTORY, LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE, THE ADDI-
TION OF ECONOMICS AND EAST-WEST TRADE IS EXPECTED TO BE
OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE POLES.

4. BEFORE THIS PROPOSAL IS TABLED WITH THE CONSORTIUM,
WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS ON ANTICIPATED POLISH
REACTION. THE PROPOSAL SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE DISCUSSED
WITH THE POLIES AT THIS TIME.

5. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO COMMENT SPECIFICALLY WHETHER
PROPOSAL ALONG THESE LINES IS LIKELY TO INDUCE POLES
TO FINALIZE ESTABLISHMENT OF AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER, AS
THIS IS IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION FROM INDIANA AND CON-
SORTIUM VIEWPOINTS. INGERSOLL

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